

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONROV 04849 141851Z

ACTION AF-04

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5515

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 4849

STADIS//////////

LIMDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE

E.O 11652 GDS

TAGS: AORG, LI

SUBJECT: PEACE CORPS/EMBASSY RELATIONS

REF: STATE 162414

1. ONE OF THE INGREDIENTS IN THE SAM BROWN PROPOSAL TO DEFINE PEACE CORPS/EMBASSY RELATIONS IS THE SUGGESTION THAT SOMEHOW CONTACT WITH EMBASSIES IS NEGATIVE FOR THE GOALS AND IMAGE OF PEACE CORPS. I HAVE PROBLEMS WITH ANY SUGGESTION THAT SOME ELEMENTS OF THE US GOVT ARE THE GOOD GUYS AND OTHERS ARE "BADDIES".

2. AS THE PRESIDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE, IT IS INCUMBENT ON ME AND, I BELIEVE, EVERY OTHER CHIEF OF MISSION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE RESOURCES OF THE US GOVT, HUMAN AND FINANCIAL, ARE BEING FULLY AND EFFICIENTLY UTILIZED. MY CONTINUED INTEREST IN PEACE CORPS/LIBERIA IS ONLY TO MONITOR THIS. OUR INTEREST HAS BEEN MORE INTENSIVE HERE BECAUSE OF SPECIAL STAFF AND PCV MORALE PROBLEMS ABOUT WHICH SAM BROWN AND OTHERS ARE FAMILIAR. IT IS MY BELIEF THAT IT
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HAS ONLY BEEN EMBASSY INTERVENTION THAT HAS KEPT THESE PROBLEMS FROM BECOMING SOMETHING OF A CAUSE CELEBRE WHICH COULD HAVE CAUSED USG SOME CONSIDERABLE EMBARRASSMENT.

3. ADDITIONALLY, I WANT ALL OFFICIAL AMERICANS, AND THIS NECESSARILY MUST INCLUDE PEACE CORPS, TO KNOW THAT THEY

ARE WELCOME ON THIS COMPOUND AND IN MY OFFICE AND THAT THERE WILL BE NO VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF SUCH AMERICANS AT THIS MISSION. BROWN APPARENTLY HAS THE IDEA THAT IF WE TREAT PCVS AS FELLOW AMERICANS AND NOT AS DISENFRANCHISED TYPES THAT THEY WILL FLOCK TO USE AMENITIES AT THE EMBASSY.

4. IN REALITY, THE VOLUNTEERS HAVE AN UNUSUAL SENSE OF IDENTITY WITH THE CONSTITUENTS OF THEIR LOCALES AND OF COURSE SPEND THE MAJORITY OF THEIR TIME UP-COUNTRY. NONETHELESS, I WANT THEM TO KNOW THEY ARE WELCOME IN MONROVIA WHEN THEY DO COME IN.

5. YOU WILL RECALL THAT IT WAS POINTED OUT AT THE ABIDJAN MEETING THAT THIS EMBASSY IS THE ONLY ONE IN AF WHERE THE PEACE CORPS DOES NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE COUNTRY TEAM. THIS IS A DELIBERATE DECISION ON MY PART SINCE I DO BELIEVE THE DIRECTOR DOES NOT HAVE A "NEED-TO-KNOW" MANY OF THE TOPICS WE COVER.

6. FINALLY, I WOULD HOPE THAT IF THERE IS TO BE ANY FORMAL DELINEATION OF EMBASSY ROLES WITH THE VARIOUS MISSION ELEMENTS, IT WOULD BEGIN OR BE PRECEDED BY A WHITE HOUSE STATMENT SETTING FORTH AGAIN HOW THE PRESIDENT EXPECTS US TO CONDUCT (READ COORDINATE) OUR JOBS AS CHIEFS OF MISSION.

CARTER

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